

Swan Hill TV District

March 2, 2022 – Snyder Law Office. Present: Vilma Chemers, chair; Gary Riecke, vice-chair; Kathy Erickson, secretary/treasurer; Mark Smolen. Guest: Charlie Cannaliato.

Meeting called to order at 4:14 pm.

Minutes from February 16, 2022 had been disseminated by email. Chris: MOTION to approve the minutes. SECOND Mark. PASSED unanimously.

Bills.	6772	2/23	C. J. Cannaliato	375.00
	EFT	2/28	IRS (payroll taxes)	81.20

County balance	117,653.44
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Mark: MOTION to approve payment of bills. SECOND Gary. PASSED unanimously.

1. Charlie Cannaliato's presentation: the future of translators in Montana. Thanks to Charlie, we are up to date on license renewals, which were filed December 1, 2021. Charlie thanked us for our financial support so he can attend the National Translator Association Convention.

FCC gave away 60% of the bandwidth to 5G. To discover how translators will be affected financially when the switch from ATSC1.0 (current) to ATSC3.0 goes into effect, he first asked a hardware CEO, who claimed it would be financially unfeasible. A second opinion thought there could be an affordable workaround. Charlie is working with a translator in Townsend to switch their feeds to internet and increase the bandwidth. We probably have five years to come up with a solution.

The switch to ATSC 3.0 will probably entail keeping a channel or two open for 1.0 broadcast with the remaining 3.0. 3.0 will provide a higher quality transmission with up to 20+ high quality streams per channel. It will provide for over-the-air plus internet dual broadcast enhanced designed for mobile applications. We are not required to provide 1.0, but perhaps will do so anyway. 3.0 will require a new generation of television sets or set top boxes. Keeping 1.0 broadcasts would provide service for those who do not upgrade their tvs.

Charlie provides service for a number of towers in NW Montana. He would like to facilitate a group buy of equipment to keep costs down. There was also a discussion of origination on low power tv.

Mark provided the board with a cost sheet on adding fiber optic from Mtn MAX. Mark: MOTION to move forward with the installation of an ip drop, not to exceed \$5,000. SECOND: Gary. PASSED unanimously. Mark will take the lead.

Charlie reported that his assessment of radio channel 101.3 showed no issues. Interference may be occurring in close proximity to the one resident who has complained, but the signal output is good.

2. Bylaws and meetings. Tabled until Carol locates a copy of bylaws in our building on Swan Hill.

3. Fees. Property tax fee reduction tabled until we can truly assess future outlays.

4. We received 3 affidavits. Carol's drive by reported a clear 101.3 signal. Property with residence is denied an exemption. The two without buildings are exempt. Mark will add wording to the website affidavits asking residents to check radio signal 101.3 before asking for an exemption.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

The next scheduled meeting: Wednesday, April 6, 2022, 4 pm, Swan River School, Sixth grade classroom.